



THE LEADER

Vol. 38, No. 28

Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D. ♦ www.grandforks.af.mil

July 18, 2003

Hard at work



Base's summer hires gain valuable experience; earn some cash in the process

- See Pages 12-13 for more

Photo by Annette Albrecht

319th Air Refueling Wing ♦ Winners of the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (July 2000 to June 2002)

Inside: AF sends tanker report to Congress

Page 3



UND Aerospace Camp visits

Page 6



Base birders get new reason to visit refuge

Pages 15



Weekend weather

Today	79/59	Isolated T-storms
Friday	84/60	Partly cloudy
Saturday	79/58	Partly cloudy
Sunday	70/56	Partly cloudy



Weather information courtesy 319th Operations Support Squadron weather flight

Special Interest

Air Force museum welcomes pioneering technology

DAYTON, Ohio (AFPN) -- Two aircraft technology demonstrators will become part of the U.S. Air Force Museum in a turnover ceremony July 16.

The Bird of Prey and X-36 technology demonstrators will be officially transferred to the museum during the ceremony.

Featuring a shape similar to its Klingon namesake from "Star Trek" fame, Boeing Company's Bird of Prey served as a highly classified project from 1992 to 1999 before company officials unveiled it Oct. 18. Museum experts said its flight tests helped prove many stealth concepts and revolutionized aircraft design, development and production.

A joint program between Boeing and NASA, the X-36 tailless fighter agility research aircraft successfully completed a 31-flight research program at NASA Dryden Flight Research Center at Edwards, Calif., in November 1997. The subscale aircraft was developed as a prototype fighter aircraft designed for stealth and agility.

"Adding these two aircraft to our collection is significant because they've helped pioneer revolutionary capabilities that are being integrated into current aircraft as well as future aircraft designs," said retired Maj. Gen. Charles Metcalf, the museum director. "They will reinforce our efforts to inform the public about the continuing need for technological innovation and how that innovation is shaping the world's greatest Air Force."

The Bird of Prey is suspended from the gallery rafters while the X-36 is displayed at ground level, museum officials said.

A subsonic, single-seat aircraft, the Bird of Prey completed 38 test flights as part of its flight-test program. The first flight took place in 1996; the project cost \$67 million, according to Air Force officials.

The X-36 project team developed and demonstrated the tailless fighter design using advanced technologies



File photo

The Bird of Prey served as a highly classified project from 1992 to 1999 before Boeing Co. officials unveiled it Oct. 18. It became part of the Air Force Museum in Dayton, Ohio, on Wednesday. (Photo courtesy of Boeing Co.)

to enhance future fighter aircraft's maneuverability and survivability.

The program met or exceeded all program goals

during its 25-week, 31-flight period in 1997, officials said. (Courtesy of Air Force Materiel Command News Service)



Action Line
747-4522

The Action Line is your avenue for information about events and activities on and around the base. For questions about current events or rumors, please leave a message.

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Col. Keye Sabol
319th Air Refueling Wing commander

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♦**Contact information** -- E-mail: leader@grandforks.af.mil, Phone: 701.747.5023

♦**Public Affairs** -- Editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by the 319th ARW public affairs office. Copy submitted for publication is edited to conform to the Associated Press Stylebook and for length.

♦**Advertisements** -- Call the Grand Forks Herald at 701.780.1275 before noon Tuesday.

AF sends tanker report to Congress

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Air Force officials took the next step in replacing its 43-year-old KC-135 Stratotanker fleet by sending Congress a report outlining the proposed lease of Boeing KC-767A tankers Monday.

Under the lease, 100 aircraft would be delivered five years sooner than under a traditional procurement plan, according to officials.

"This aircraft will transform the Air Force tanker force," said Dr. Marvin R. Sambur, assistant secretary of the Air Force for acquisition. "This lease marks the important beginning of the urgent re-capitalization to the KC-135 fleet - a very successful, but rapidly aging, achievement of the Eisenhower administration.

"The principal reason for proposing a lease is the advantage it affords for quickly delivering needed tankers to our warfighters without requiring significant upfront funding," Dr. Sambur said.

The proposal calls for leasing the KC-767As for six years, with the first four aircraft delivered in fiscal 2006. All 100 tankers would be operating by fiscal 2011. The traditional procurement plan fields only one tanker by fiscal 2009.

The contracted lease price per aircraft in 2002 dollars is \$138 million, which includes \$7 million in construction financing. The total lease payment will be about \$16.6 billion, considering inflation. The contract includes a provision to purchase the fleet at the end of the lease for \$4.4 billion -- if Congress decides to approve such a purchase.

"The lease is based on a firm, fixed-price contract, with a return on sales not to exceed 15 percent," Dr. Sambur said. "This means if Boeing's profits are more than 15 percent on either the commercial or military portion of the tanker, they will reimburse the excess to the taxpayer.

"But, if Boeing underestimates their costs, they will have to deliver the tanker no matter what the expense. It's an all-around good deal for the American taxpayer."

The KC-767A is the world's newest and most advanced tanker with capabilities important to the warfighter, Dr. Sambur said. It can deliver 20 percent more fuel than the KC-135E and can itself be refueled in flight, a capability the KC-135E does not have. The new tanker can also refuel Navy, Marine Corps and allied aircraft on every mission, significantly enhancing joint and combined operations. At maximum take-off weight, the KC-767A requires 4,000 feet less runway than the KC-135E. Besides its role as a tanker, the KC-767A will be configured as a convertible freighter and can carry 200 passengers or

19 pallets of cargo.

Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche forwarded the report, in accordance with provisions of the 2002 Department of Defense Appropriations Act.



Photo by Master Sgt. Jim Varhegyi

Dr. Marvin R. Sambur, assistant secretary of the Air Force for acquisition, talks to reporters at the Pentagon on July 14 about the Air Force's plan to lease 767As from the Boeing Corporation. The lease delivers 100 aircraft to the Air Force five years earlier than under traditional procurement plans.

Changes to travel processing reminder

A new travel processing policy from the Secretary of the Air Force and Air Mobility Command became effective Tuesday. The new policy, in accordance with Department of Defense financial management regulations, directs supervisors or approving officials to review and sign all travel claims.

Travel claims that fail to obtain a supervisor's or approving official's signature will be returned to the traveler for correction.

The purpose of signatures is to validate the accuracy of a claim, in accordance with travel authorization and receipts. In addition, it verifies the new mandatory split disbursement policy -- determining if the

card use was mandatory and the member elected to pay the unpaid charges on their government travel card. Supervisor and approving officials' signatures are not required for accrual vouchers, PCS, or DITY vouchers. The new provisions are intended to curb the continuing negative trend in rising delinquency rates, misuse/abuse of the GTC, and ensures timely filing of travel vouchers.

Essentially, the supervisor/approving official will review, sign, and date Block 20c or 21a of the travel settlement voucher (DD Form 1351).

2). Ensure Block 1 of the travel voucher is completed to check on split disbursement.

For details call the 319th Comptroller Squadron at 747-6302.

Next BRAC will reflect changing times

By **Gerry J. Gilmore**
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – There were 97 major base closures and 55 major realignments during previous base realignment and closure actions in 1988, 1991, 1993 and 1995, according to DoD documents.

Besides cutting redundant infrastructure, those BRACS resulted in a net savings of \$16 billion through fiscal 2001, according to DoD figures, and annually recurring savings of \$6 billion beyond then.

However, almost a decade has passed since the last BRAC was conducted, Raymond DuBois, deputy undersecretary of defense for installations and environment, noted during a July 10 Pentagon interview. Congress authorized DoD to execute a new BRAC round in 2005.

Much has changed since 1995, DuBois emphasized, pointing to today's war against global terrorism.

"A great deal has changed in the last 10 years that ought to lead any thinking person to the conclusion that ... (another BRAC) is a good thing to do," he said.

The next BRAC will affect stateside and U.S. territory bases. DoD, he added, is also looking at its global military force structure to see if it meets today's national security needs. Lessons learned from 9-11 and the ensuing war on terrorism, DuBois noted, suggest that adjustments should also be conducted with forces sta-

"We ought to look at how all four services can utilize a reconfigured footprint to better support the warfighting plans of the combatant commanders."

Raymond DuBois

Deputy undersecretary of defense
for installations and environment

tioned overseas.

And besides trimming excess real estate that's costly to maintain, he explained, another BRAC would assist DoD to become more "joint."

"We ought to look at how all four services can utilize a reconfigured footprint to better support the warfighting plans of the combatant commanders," DuBois said.

Although not addressed in the 2005 BRAC, it's well known, DuBois pointed out, that "there are (overseas) places where we have a concentration of troops basically as a legacy from the Cold War — as a legacy of the post-World War II situation between the Warsaw Pact and NATO."

The Cold War "has gone away," he asserted. Consequently, he pointed out, there is no longer a need for having 70,000 U.S. troops based in Germany. In fact, DuBois noted that U.S. combatant commanders are slated to meet soon to study today's worldwide basing and warfighting needs.

The 2005 BRAC, DuBois noted, will reconfigure stateside military infrastructure to meet the realities of the 21st century. Some installations, he explained, will gain assets while others will be closed.

"The secretary of defense, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs (of Staff) and the combatant commanders have learned that our force structure is not necessarily positioned in the right place," DuBois pointed out, to carry out U.S. military deployment and warfighting plans in the most efficient way.

Another potential result derived from another round of base realignments and closures, DuBois noted, is fewer duty station moves: Remaining military installations would be in advantageous locations related to their military missions.

If service members move less from station to station during their careers, then "I think that has a positive impact on quality of life," DuBois said.

Basically, the war against global terrorism has caused DoD to rethink "what opportunities should we have for basing, for deployment, for supply lines — globally," DuBois concluded.

News

Briefs

State fair 'salute to troops'

The North Dakota State Fair in Minot is having a "Salute to Troops" event. All military ID card holders and family members who attend the fair on July 26, will be able to ride the carnival rides for free from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Children under the age of 10 who do not have an ID card must be with a parent who has an ID.

In addition, any person with a military ID card who attends the "Salute to Troops" event in the grandstand at 1 p.m. will receive a free Neal McCoy grandstand concert ticket for later that evening. Outdoor recreation is planning a trip to the fair for these festivities. Call them at 747-3688 for details about the trip. For details about the fair, call Stephanie Schoenrock with the ND State Fair at (701) 857-7620.

Military personnel flight hours

The military personnel flight is open from 7:30 a.m.

to 4:30 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and on Tuesdays and Thursdays they are open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m..

The first hour on Tuesdays and Thursdays are being dedicated to in-house training. For details call MPF customer service at 747-4902.

Personnel accountability

Each base and unit is responsible for 100 percent accountability of all military members, at all times. According to Air Force instructions, all military members are required to sign out and sign in of their commander support staffs, or CSS, upon leaving and returning from temporary duty assignments.

Effective since Dec. 1, when you sign-in from TDY, your unit CSS (or the base personnel readiness unit for those deployed) updates your duty status code to "present for duty" and places a verification sticker on TDY orders so people can be paid by finance.

Personnel are reminded to take a couple of minutes

upon their return from a TDY to sign-in at their CSS.

Elementary program on base

Mayville State University is interested in providing an Elementary Education Program at the base education center. If you want to become a teacher, please meet with Dr. Mike Worner to plan your educational goals. Upcoming meeting dates at the Education Center are as follows: Aug. 11, Sept. 10, and Oct. 14. Call 594-8144 or visit www.mayville.edu for other courses on-line and on campus (BAS degree offered on line).

CVIC volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed to help support the Grand Forks Community Violence Intervention Center (CVIC) run/walk for peace on July 26. Many volunteers are needed for a number of duties such as set-up and take-down, registration, course attendants, timers, photographer, awards distributor, first-aid/CPR providers, and a host of other duties. For more details Heather Bush at 746-0405.

Langley AFB testing new traffic safety vests

Gate guards at Langley Air Force Base, Va., are testing a new, light-emitting, traffic safety garment called the integrated tactical traffic vest that could make directing traffic in the dark safer.

The new vest uses fiber-optic light rope woven through the vest's mesh along with traditional reflective material and illuminates the wearer to make the person more visible.

Air Combat Command security forces purchased 60 of the new vests, and the first 18 were distributed to 1st Security Forces Squadron for testing. Throughout the next month, gate guards will wear the vests and provide feedback to command officials.

Steve Kunich, a senior analyst with Science Applications International Corp. working for the ACC security forces systems branch, designed the vests.

He explained that traditional safety vests only use reflective strips. For the reflective material to work, it must be hit by light.

Kunich said usually by the time the light reflects off of the safety vest and a driver's mind can process what he or she has seen, the vehicle has already passed. Plus, over time, the reflective material can fade and lose its effectiveness. (AFPN)

SGLI rates reduced

Premium rates for both Servicemember's Group Life Insurance and Family Member SGLI were reduced effective July 1.

This is an automatic decrease and no update action is required by anyone.

Fishing tourney volunteers

Volunteers are needed for the Cats Incredible fishing tournament Aug. 1-3. Many shifts are available including front gate, beer garden, raffle ticket sellers, fish handlers, recorders, security, north ramp, officials, and on-water officials with boats. Call 773-7481 for details or to volunteer.

Long term care enrollment continues

Even though initial enrollment has ended, Air Force active duty, selected Reserve, appropriated fund civilian employees, retirees and qualified family members can continue to apply for Long Term Care insurance.

LTC does not have an annual open season like many other health care programs, officials at the Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, said.

The initial open enrollment season was held during 2002 to introduce the program and it is undecided when there will be another open season, said officials.

The Federal LTC Program is a benefit authorized by Congress in September 2000 to help federal employees, including military, defray the rising costs of long term care such as home care, nursing home care, or assisted living facilities for people no longer able to perform the normal daily activities of living because of chronic mental or physical conditions.

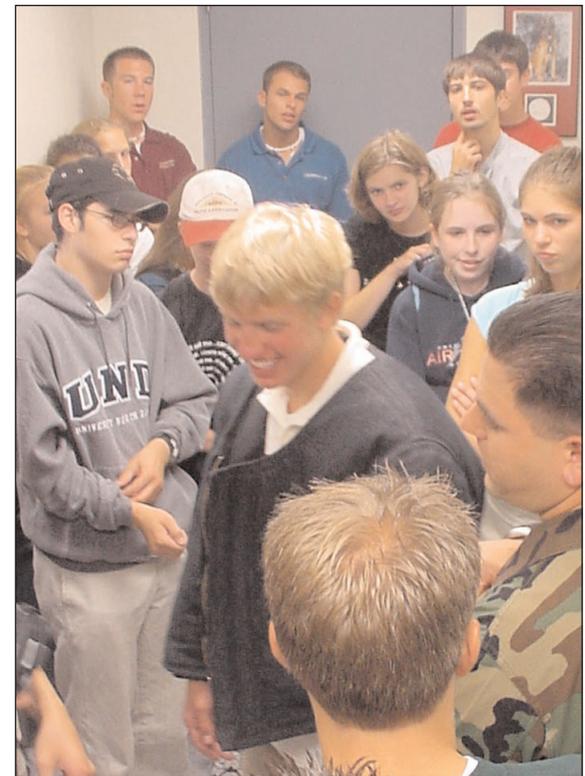
More information on the insurance program and how to enroll is available online at the LTC Partners Web site -- <http://www.ltcfeds.com/> -- or by calling 1-800-582-3337.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Scott T. Sturkol

UND Aerospace Camp visits

(Above) Nearly 35 high school age aerospace students from around the United States and Canada who are a part of a University of North Dakota Aerospace Camp visited the base Monday for a tour. Here they investigate the landing gear of a KC-135R Stratotanker. (Right) A student tries on protective gear used by military working dog handlers at the 319th Security Forces Squadron.



Robins AFB civilian jailed for bomb threat

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. (AFP) -- A base civilian employee was sentenced in federal court here July 8 after pleading guilty to making a bomb threat on base.

Yolanda Aparicio was sentenced to two years imprisonment in a federal facility and ordered to pay \$786,860 in restitution.

Besides imprisonment, the wage-grade employee in the C-5 Galaxy maintenance division was sentenced to three years supervised probation. The restitution amount covered the lost work revenue the base experienced when the flightline was shut down and evacuated during the bomb threat.

An indictment against Aparicio was handed down in July 2002 by the U.S. District Court for the Middle Georgia District in Macon. Aparicio pleaded guilty in February. Her sentencing was delayed pending an evaluation.

According to the indictment, Aparicio was charged with threatening to use a weapon of mass destruction and for passing on false information regarding the bomb threat. She was accused of making a written threat on May 14, 2002, indi-

cating there was a bomb in a building here.

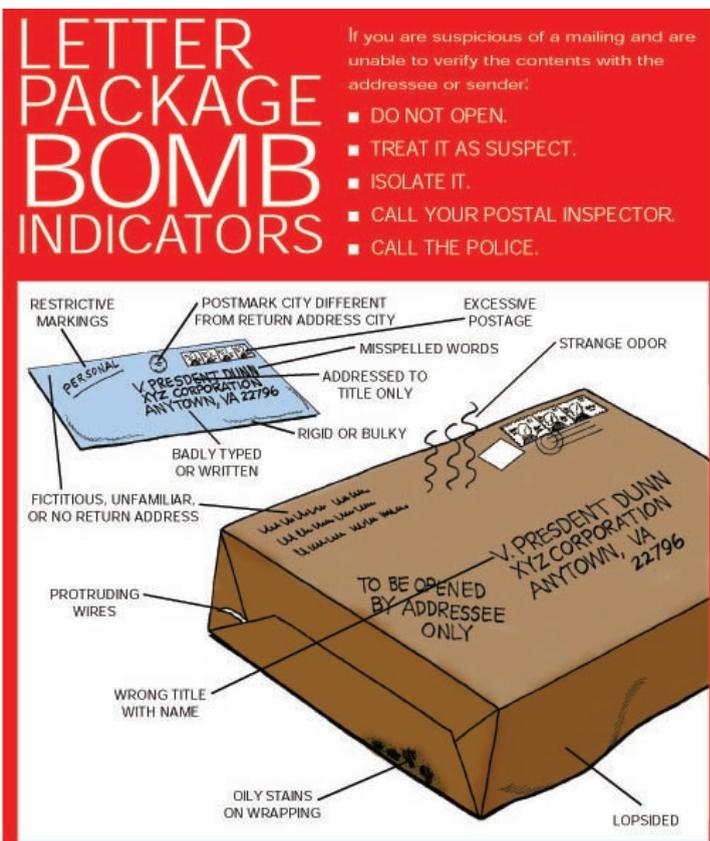
Appropriate punishment in such a case carries greater weight given recent national events, according to Maj. Gen. Donald Wetekam, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center commander.

"Bomb threats are serious matters, particularly in light of the attacks that have taken place against the United States," Wetekam said. "Our greatest concern is the safety of the work force.

"We must do everything within our power to provide a safe environment where employees can concentrate on the extremely important work they do in the war on terrorism. We do not take these kinds of incidents lightly," he said.

Base officials had placed Aparicio on indefinite suspension -- a non-duty, non-pay status -- Aug. 8 pending resolution of the criminal charges.

The incident was investigated by Air Force Office of Special Investigations Detachment 105, which passed the findings to the U.S. attorney's office, since the incident involved a civilian employee. *(Courtesy of Air Force Materiel Command News Service)*



Base chapel

CATHOLIC:

Mass: 5 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m. Sunday, Sunflower Chapel.

Daily Mass: Tuesday through Friday 11:30 a.m. Sunflower Chapel.

Reconciliation: 4 p.m. Saturday, or by appointment, Sunflower Chapel.

PROTESTANT:

Traditional worship: 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Sunflower Chapel.

Contemporary worship: 6 p.m. Sunday, Prairie Rose Chapel.

Young Adults: 6 p.m. Friday, Chaplain Swain's home, 747-4359.

Men of the Chapel Bible Study: Noon Monday, Prairie Rose Conference Room.

JEWISH:

For details call Sheila Farquharson at 594-3960 or Synagogue B'nai Israel at 775-5124.

RUSSIAN/EASTERN ORTHODOX:

For details, call Dr. Levitov at 780-6540.

MUSLIM, BUDDHIST, OTHER:

For details, call 747-5673.

Base theater

Today, 7 p.m.

2 Fast, 2 Furious (PG-13)

Starring Paul Walker and Tyrese Gibson, former cop Brian O'Conner teams up with his ex-con pal Roman Pearce to transport a shipment of "dirty" money for shady Miami-based import-export dealer Carter Verone, while actually working with undercover agent Monica Clemente to bring Verone down.

Saturday, 3 p.m.

Dumb and Dumberer (G)

This prequel to the Farrelly brothers' 1994 hit, *Dumb & Dumber*, tracks Harry (Eric Christian Olsen) and Lloyd (Derek Richardson) during their high-school years, as the dim duo tries to escape the "special" classes and enter "normal" high-school life. Luis Guzman plays a janitor who adopts Lloyd, Eugene Levy plays their school principal, and Mimi Rogers stars as Harry's mom.

Saturday, 7 p.m.

Down With Love (PG-13)

In this homage to the romantic comedies of Doris Day and Rock Hudson, Renée Zellweger plays feminist writer Barbara Novak, who has just penned *Down With Love*, a book denouncing romance in favor of career goals. When her new work hits the best-seller list, she is tracked down by womanizing journalist Catcher Block (Ewan McGregor), and an unlikely romance blooms.

July 25, 7 p.m.

Hollywood Homicide (PG)

Two Los Angeles Police Department homicide detectives, one a grizzled veteran (Harrison Ford) and the other a young yoga instructor and aspiring actor (Josh Hartnett), investigate the onstage murder of a rap group, possibly organized by the boss of a top rap label.

July 26 3 p.m.

Rugrats Go Wild (PG)

The characters from two hit Nickelodeon series collide in *Rugrats Go Wild*. When the vacationing Pickles family becomes stranded on a deserted island, Tommy Pickles knows there's only one man who can help them: Nigel Thornberry, ace wilderness expert. But Thornberry's been hit on the head, which makes him about as much help as a 3-year-old.

July 26, 7 p.m.

Wrong Turn (PG-13)

A wrong turn leads a group of young people to the West Virginia wilderness, where they are hunted by cannibalistic mountain men suffering from years of inbreeding.

Tickets: \$1.50 children, \$3 adults

For details, call 747-3021/6123.

Airmen can carry over more leave

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) -- Some active-duty airmen will be allowed to accumulate more than 60 days of annual leave after the fiscal year ends, according to Air Force Personnel Center officials here. The airmen must have been unable to take leave because they were supporting contingency operations.

Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve airmen who performed full-time training or other full-time duty for more than 29 days are also eligible for this special leave accrual.

Those affected can retain up to 90 days of leave until the end of fiscal 2004, according to personnel officials.

"This program is meant to enable people to take (the) leave they've earned," said Master Sgt. Don Taylor, the customer support operations superintendent at the center. "In order for the program to work as planned, though, those affected need to take not only the leave they are carrying over now, but also the leave they will earn during the next fiscal year, or they may lose leave next year."

Those who meet the criteria for having excess leave should apply for special leave accrual through command channels. For details call customer service at the military personnel flight at 747-4902. *(Courtesy of AFPC News Service)*

Civilian career brief now available online

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) -- Air Force civilians now have the ability to view their own career information online from any Internet-connected computer, according to Air Force Personnel Center officials here.

The virtual Civilian Career Brief offers information that might help in career planning like current position data, pay and benefits, appraisals and education, officials said.

"The biggest advantage of the virtual career brief is its convenience for the customer," said David Davenport, chief of the Air Force re-engineering and development division, the office responsible for developing the program. Employees will be able to see their information without having to visit the civilian personnel flight.

Besides position data, civilians can view information pertaining to:

- Certifications and language proficiencies.
- Appointments.
- Benefits.
- Overseas history.

- Special placement eligibility.
- Career program registration.
- Current job experience.
- Job history.
- Education level and history.
- Training history.
- Awards received.
- Appraisal summary.

People can access the vCCB through the AFPC secure Web site at <https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/afpcsecure/default.asp>. New vCCB users will need to establish an account before using the service. Establishing an account takes only minutes, officials said.

Once on the AFPC secure Web site, select "Civ Career Brief" from the button menu.

"This new program isn't eliminating the career brief service from the CPF," said Davenport. "Employees can, however, save themselves valuable time over possibly having to wait in line."

For details about vCCB call the civilian personnel flight at 747-5036. *(Courtesy AFPC News Service)*

Air Force Honor Guard

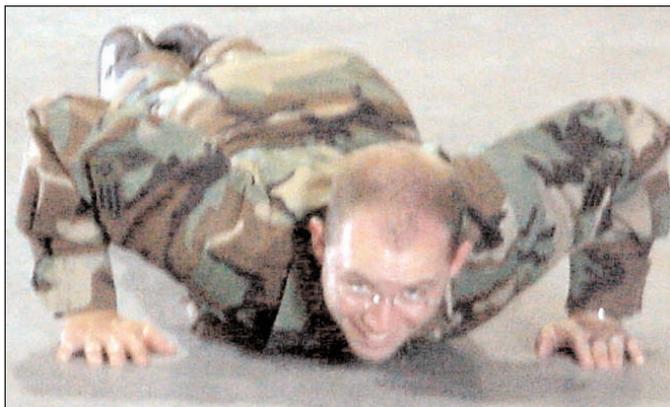
Members visit base; offer training for base HG people



Photos by 1st Lt. Robert Lazaro

Staff Sgt. Zachary Crowford, Air Force Honor Guard colors instructor, directs a detail on timing when posting colors. He is part of the four-person team that has been training base and area honor guard members to standardize their detail and formation across the Air Force.

Staff Sgt. Sanjuana Vasquez (right), Air Force Honor Guard mobile training instructor, observes a firing party team as they practice Wednesday in Hangar



(Above) Senior Airman Matthew Hancsarik, base Honor Guard member, gets in some pushups during training with the Air Force Honor Guard. (Right) Airman 1st Class Serita Bennett, another base Honor Guard member, practices with a rifle during the training.



Students, base enjoy benefits of summer program

By **Jeanne Rodacker**
Human Resources Officer

As in past summers, Grand Forks Air Force Base has once again sponsored a summer student employment program.

The Wing Commander's interest in community relations for employment of the youth both on the base and downtown was expressed through his financial support of this program. This year's student employment program sponsored 23 part-time and four full-time positions, ranging from life-guards to clerical, laborers to recreation aids and engineering trainees. These positions were spread throughout the base, giving students the opportunity to work in a wide variety of settings.

The employment period for this summer's program is from June 9 to Aug. 15. This program's eligibility requirements are simple...

❑ The student must be at least sixteen years old;

❑ They must be enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a degree-seeking student (diploma, certificate, etc.);

❑ That enrollment must be at least half-time in an accredited high school, technical or vocational school, 2-year or 4-year college or university, graduate or professional school; and

❑ The student must be a U.S. citizen.

The Civilian Personnel Flight implemented a new method of recruitment this year. Students were recruited using the Air Force Personnel Center Summer Student Employment recruitment team, which is stationed at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas. Announcements were posted on the AFPC web site (<http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/afjo>

bs) from March through the end of June.

Michelle Wilson, the program coordinator, contacted local high schools, technical schools and universities notifying them of the program and it's application processes.

Students interested in employment submitted resumes on-line; flowing their properly formatted resume to the Summer Unit at AFPC. The next step was to self-nominate themselves to any number of jobs posted under this program's posted announcements. The self-nomination process was also accomplished by going on-line and 'clicking' on the position(s) they wanted to be considered for employment.

Representatives of the base who attended job fairs at both the University of North Dakota and North Dakota State University sought after engineering students in mechanical and civil engineering as well as architects. The push for hiring engineering students is because this is a very difficult career field to recruit for permanent hires. The summer student program has been an excellent source for recruiting engineering students while still in college, giving them on-the-job experience, in hopes they will continue their employment as Federal civilian employees after graduation.

The exciting part about this program is the positive feedback received by both the students and the organizations that employ the students. We have seen some students apply as high school students and continue applying while in college.

Organizations start calling us in February asking if they can be on the list to get a student for the summer because of the enthusiasm that the students bring to the organization -- and I guess the extra manpower doesn't hurt either!



Off to work we go

Area students lighten load as summer hires, gain valuable workplace experience

By Annette Albrecht
Public affairs

Summer in Grand Forks means sunshine, relief from homework and a job on the Air Force Base for many area students as part of the summer hire program.

Student employment is available to all students enrolled in high school, undergraduate, graduate, or vocational/technical classes at least half-time, and they must be degree-seeking.

Students interested in the summer hire program must be at least 16-years-old to apply. Applications may be submitted online where resumes can be created, which will be held for up to one year, or until applicants are placed in a job.

The summer hire program began June 9 and ends Aug 15. Those who have already been in the program can reapply and be reemployed in the same position the following summer.

Selection for the program is done randomly, however, priority is given to students who have held a position the previous year and still meet employment requirements. There are usually about 25 positions available on base, but the number varies from year to year.

Jobs available to students include clerical, recreation-

al aids and laborers. Many of the laborers work in outdoor recreation, or at the golf course. Opportunities for clerical workers include positions in offices such as pass and identification and public affairs.

Students are placed in jobs that match their career plans, if possible. That benefits the summer hires as they help reduce the workload for their supervisors while learning valuable job skills.

According to Mrs. Michelle Wilson, human resources specialist, students are given the unique opportunity to experience working on a military installation.

Mrs. Wilson said, "Many times this experience leads the students into an Air Force career, while others may become federal employees."

At the end of the summer, the student employees are given a survey to find out what they think about the summer hire program. Mrs. Wilson has been happy with feedback from these surveys, which show students value the experience, learning new things and enjoying their involvement in the program.

The students' supervisors have also given positive feedback about the summer hire program and the students they worked with.

"When the supervisors have had a good experience with the program, they continue to want student hires in the following years," Mrs. Wilson said.

Outdoor recreation employs three summer hire students. Mr. Jon Champagne has been in the program four years.

Now in his fourth year of college at Mayville State University, he said this is a good part-time job and a great learning experience.

Mr. Champagne works with two other summer hires, Ms. Heather Plets and Mr. Nick Swingen.

Ms. Plets is a senior at Grand Forks Red River High School and is in her second year in the program. She came back this year because, "I had a good job last year, and this helps to pay for college."

This is Mr. Swingen's first year in the program. This fall he will be a freshman at Lake Region State College.

He said he enjoys the flexible hours and good pay as a summer hire on base.

Mr. Jon Kylo is a University of North Dakota sophomore majoring in information systems. He worked at the 905th Air Refueling Squadron last year and requested the same job again this summer.

"These are good people to work with. It is like you become part of the family - you are all working together to get the job done."

-- Mr. Jon Kylo, summer hire

Working at the 905th ARS is a good experience for Mr. Kylo because of his major, but he commented that this real world experience is also beneficial to see how an office functions and works together.

The 905th employed two summer hires before Mr. Kylo joined their office, and his supervisor, Tech. Sgt. Charles Redburn, said the program benefits not only the student but also the base.

"The program helps with the relationship between downtown and the base," Sgt. Redburn said.

Sgt. Redburn also commented that students who come from UND can see what goes on here, and that helps to create a stronger bond between the university and the base.

Although many military dependants are employed in the program, it is a good experience for non-military students to work on base as well. Many students have not been on the base before starting the summer hire program.

Recruiting for the program is done in area high schools by a local point of contact. Mrs. Wilson said information regarding the summer hire program is sent to area high schools including Northwood, Thompson, Larimore, Grand Forks, and East Grand Forks.

Information is also sent to the University of North Dakota, North Dakota State University and to the area technical colleges. To apply for the summer hire program, visit <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/>.



Photos by Annette Albrecht

(Clockwise, from top left) Summer hire Nick Swingen, 319th Services Squadron outdoor recreation, wipes down one of the squadron's rental watercraft.

Jon Kylo, 905th Air Refueling Squadron summer hire, assists the office with general administrative responsibilities.

Heather Plets, 319th SVs outdoor recreation summer hire, buffs the outdoor recreation garage floor.

Summer hire Jon Champagne, 319th SVS outdoor recreation, moves rental equipment in the garage.

Community

Today



CLUB DINING:

Tonight's Northern Lights Club special is fried catfish-to-go for \$6.95 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Orders can be called in to have them ready for pick-up after work. The Frontier Grill menu is also available.



SUMMER CAMPS:

Register by close of business for the youth center's golf camp Monday through July 25 for ages 9 to 12 from 9 a.m. to noon. Class size is limited to 20, and the cost is \$50.

For details on other youth center summer camps, call 747-3150.

Saturday

PRETEEN DANCE: The youth center is holding a dance for ages 6 to 12 from 7 to 9 p.m. Cost is \$5 and includes snacks and drinks. The theme for this dance is "Red, White and Blue."



FRAMING WORKSHOP:

The skills development center is holding a framing workshop from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cost is \$20 and materials. Advanced registration and payment is required.

Participants will learn to cut frames, glass and mats, and put it all together. Please bring a picture to frame.



CLUB KARAOKE:

The Northern Lights Club offers Karaoke from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m.

Tuesday



TORCH CLUB

MEETING: The youth center holds a Torch Club meeting every Tuesday for ages 11 to 13 from 8 to 9 p.m. For details, call the youth center at 747-3150.



TEENSUPREME

MEETING: There is a TeenSupreme meeting every Tuesday for ages 14 to 18 from 9 to 10 p.m. at the Liberty Square teen center.

Wednesday



INTERNATIONAL PEACE GARDENS

TRIP: Register by close of business for outdoor recreation's trip to the International Peace Gardens July 26. Cost of transportation is \$15.50 for adults, \$25 for a family of two, \$37.50 for a family of three and \$45 for a family of four.

Transportation departs at 7 a.m. from outdoor recreation and returns at approximately 9 p.m.

Thursday

FUN BUS: The Youth Center's Fun Bus will visit the playground at Sunflake Circle from 3 to 5 p.m. There will be games, arts and crafts, tournaments and a variety of summertime activities for school-aged youth offered by the youth programs staff.



FINE ARTS

PROGRAM: The youth center's next fine arts program class for ages 6 to 12 is at 6:30 p.m. and ages 13 to 18 is at 8 p.m. This free program is meant to provide members with the opportunity to create works of art for display in a local exhibit.

The goal is to help youth uncover their artistic talents and motivate them to develop their creative skills and possibly explore related career opportunities. A qualified instructor will be present.

Upcoming

NORTH DAKOTA STATE FAIR:

Register soon for outdoor recreation's trip to the North Dakota State Fair in Minot on July 26.

Cost of transportation is \$15 for adults, \$7.50 for children 13 and younger, \$35 for a family of three, and \$42.50 for a family of four. Family prices include two adults; additional adult fees cost \$15.

Transportation departs at 7 a.m. and returns around midnight, depending on participant interest.

All military and family identification card holders who attend the fair can ride carnival rides for free from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For details, call outdoor recreation at 747-3688.

Kelly's Slough National Wildlife Refuge becomes 57th shorebird site to join network

By Staff Sgt. Scott T. Sturkol
Public affairs

Kelly's Slough National Wildlife Refuge, located approximately eight miles east of the base, recently became the 57th site to be designated to the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network, or WHSRN.

WHSRN is a voluntary, non-regulatory coalition of more than 160 private and public organizations in seven countries, working together to study and conserve shorebirds throughout their habitats, according to a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service news release. Membership in the network provides the site with international recognition as a major host for shorebirds.

"Area birdwatching clubs have been watching this designation process very closely," said Mr. John Gorman, 319th Services Squadron outdoor recreation programs director. "With the refuge being so close to the base, this designation should give people here an added reason to go out there and observe the tons of birds that use that area."

Kelly's Slough NWR is a regional shorebird site that includes 3,834 acres and is part of the Devil's Lake Wetland Management District Complex of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Mr. Kurt Tompkins, USFWS, said the service's Devil's Lake Wetland Management District staff is planning a dedication ceremony Thursday at 5:30 p.m. at the parking area on the refuge. The parking area is located approximately three miles north of United States Highway 2 between the Grand Forks International Airport and the base.

"Several dignitaries will speak about the importance of Kelly's Slough NWR and the recent WHSRN designation," Mr. Tompkins said. "Beginning at 5 p.m., members of the Grand Forks County Wildlife Federation will be grilling meat and providing beverages for a nominal charge. Participants are welcome to birdwatch before and after the ceremony."

Mr. Tompkins said the event is scheduled during the peak of the fall shorebird migration and participants will be directed to an alternate site if there is inclement weather.

A minimum of 30 shorebird species have been documented at Kelly's Slough, WHSRN's Web site, www.manomet.org/WHSRN, states. The most common shorebird species include the semi-palmated Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs, American Avocet, Wilson's Phalarope, Pectoral Sandpiper, Stilt Sandpiper, long-billed and short-billed Dowitchers, Least Sandpiper and Dunlin.

Kelly's Slough NWR complex is dominated by low relief with numerous wetland basins. Soils in the area vary from very poor to good. Natural disturbances include periodic flooding and drought within the watershed located in the Red River Valley. Management issues that continue to be a priority include wetland and water level manipulation to enhance habitat for migratory birds such as shorebirds and waterfowl.

"This is good for birdwatchers everywhere," Mr. Gorman said. "I hope folks from the base take the time to see this national treasure just a few miles down the road."



Shorebirds in Facts & Figures

Number of Shorebird species in the world	214
Number of Shorebird species in the Western Hemisphere	74
Number of Shorebirds that breed in North America	49
Number of Shorebirds that breed in Alaska	37
Number of Shorebirds that breed in Hawaii	1 (Hawaiian Stilt)
Number of shorebirds found only in South America (ex. Magellanic Plover, Peruvian Thick-knee, and Andean Avocet)	24
Number of countries visited by N. American breeding Shorebirds (ex: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, China, Mexico, Surinam)	41
Number of shorebirds species in serious decline in the USA	19
Number of Shorebirds that are federally endangered in the USA	1 (Piping Plover)
Number of Shorebirds believed to be extinct	1 (Eskimo Curlew)
Total acreage included in the 49 WHSRN reserves	>20 million
Number of organizational partners in WHSRN	185
Largest Shorebird (by length)	Long-billed Curlew

Air Force Marathon offers new race options

By Patrick Reilly
Air Force Marathon Office

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFP) -- Air Force Marathon officials will add two new options to this year's Sept. 20 race. Besides the full-marathon and marathon-team races, this year's event features a 13.1-mile half marathon and a 5km (3.1 mile) race.

The half-marathon race will be on a loop-back course that will share the start and finish lines with the full marathon. Half-marathon and marathon relay participants will race alongside one another until the turnaround point, then the half-marathoners head back toward the finish line located near the Air Force Museum, officials said.

The marathon and half-marathon courses will feature aid stations at every mile mark. Stations will pro-

vide water, electrolyte replenishment, fruit, water-soaked sponges and first aid.

"Because the full and half-marathons are on the same course, the half-marathon racers will be able to use many of the same aid stations and enjoy the same festive atmosphere that the full marathoners do," said Cheryl Blom, Air Force Marathon volunteer coordinator.

"The 5km (race) is going to generate a lot of interest with runners who don't necessarily want to run the full 26.2-mile or 13.1-mile courses," said Bob Brodess, Air Force Marathon director. "We're affectionately calling it our 'fun run.'"

Though the 5km participants will not receive a medal, their entry fee will get them a runner packet almost identical to the full- and half-marathoners, and relay team members. The packet includes an official Air Force Marathon T-shirt, patch and several coupons to

local restaurants and businesses.

Leading up to the marathon, an exposition is scheduled for Sept. 18 to 20.

The expo will feature vendor booths that showcase running and fitness related items and services.

The marathon staff continues taking applications until Sept. 4. The entry fee is \$50 for the marathon, \$35 for the half-marathon, \$180 for a marathon relay team and \$15 for the 5km fun run.

There are still plenty of spots available for the full marathon, half marathon and 5km races, but marathon relay team openings are limited. Participants can also pay an additional \$10 for a ticket to the pasta dinner Sept. 19.

For more information, contact the marathon office at DSN 787-4350, commercial (937) 257-4350, toll free (800) 467-1823 or on the Web site at <http://afmarathon.wpafb.af.mil>.